

Aging in Place in the Community Committee

Tuesday September 13, 2016

9:30-11:30 am

7300 Calhoun Place, Room 600

Rockville, MD 20850

Participants: Commissioners Miriam Kelty, Chuck Kauffman, Noureen Chochan, Bonnie Klem, Richard Jourdenais, Monica Schaeffer, Isabelle Schoenfeld, Mary Petrizzo

Guests: Marsha Weber, Austin Heyman, Harriet Shapiro Block, Beth Shapiro

Staff: Pazit Aviv

Welcome and Introductions

Miriam welcomed participants and asked that new Commissioners and other attendees introduce themselves. It was announced that Mary Petrizzo and Bonnie Klem will co-chair the AIPC for 2017.

Summer Study Report

Mary Petrizzo, Co-Chair of the Summer Study on Dental Services, provided an overview of the Summer Study and recommendations. She noted that oral health is a major issue for seniors and that it impacts on other health conditions. Specifically mentioned was lack of funding under the Medicare and Medicaid programs; funding gaps; the need for Dental Health Service Days in Montgomery County to offer free dental care to underserved seniors; and the gap between personal/medical care and dental care. On Oct 4th 2016, the Health and Wellness Committee will meet in conjunction with the Maryland State Office of Oral Health. AIPC members complemented the Summer Study group on the breadth and quality of their work and supported the recommendations.

Executive Committee's Proposal for Committee Structure and Alignment with Age Friendly Initiative

Miriam provided information from the Executive Committee Task Force on committee restructuring. The Commission asked the Task Force to re-examine its committees in light of the movement towards an "Age Friendly" community. The Task Force reviewed the goals and activities of each committee, compared committee activities/mission with those of the Senior Agenda and Age Friendly domains and proposed revisions to the committee structure.

For The AIPC, the Committee name would be changed to Aging in Place/Community and Planning Committee. The Committee would address: transportation and mobility, housing including Villages, outdoor spaces and buildings, employment, including older people as valuable resources, civil engagement/social participation and safety and security. These areas align with Age Friendly domains and represent an expanded scope for AIPC. The Committee discussed the domains and made suggestions for priorities in 2017. It was mentioned that the discussion and determination of priorities at the Sept 22nd COA Annual Meeting will help better define an agenda for the Aging in Place Committee for 2017. COA Committees should identify potential partners in the public and private sector. Their goal is to make Montgomery County an "age friendly" environment for all seniors. It was noted that, as a committee, we are serving all seniors in Montgomery County, not just the underserved.

The Committee discussed the suggested Age Friendly domains. Social isolation was mentioned as a challenge for seniors who are aging in place. Ride sharing was mentioned as a gap in transportation options. It was noted that various county committees are already focusing on transportation issues and seniors and recommended that this should not be the focus of our committee. "Ageism" was discussed as an international problem. Monica Schaeffer briefed AIPC on the Employment workgroup that is addressing Ageism and the need for multigenerational approaches to decrease ageism. Beth Shapiro noted that employment and socialization are intertwined. The Committee acknowledged that the domains are in interest areas of more than one CoA committee and that it makes sense to interact including having joint meetings.

It was suggested that Seniors Today do a program on ageism, and that ageism issues be noted on the Montgomery County website seniors pages.

Age Friendly Montgomery Work Groups

AIPC was updated on the working groups that met during the summer to develop a three- year strategic plan for Age Friendly Montgomery. Monica summarized the work of the Employment working group and Miriam noted that the Home Based and Community Services working group has made progress on defining priorities, goals, objectives and action steps. The importance of participation on the working

The question was raised about how Montgomery County government department chairs will address the output products of the Age Friendly working groups. This question will be brought to the full Commission.

COA Annual Meeting

The purpose and agenda for the Annual Meeting were reviewed. It's importance for new Commissioners was emphasized along with the process for setting CoA priorities for the next year.

Resources

Monika informed the group of an Urban Institute conference on Promoting Economic Mobility: Making Cities More Inclusive. The proceedings of the September conference will most likely be published. She also noted a series of papers and videos by Legg Mason on Aging and its Financial Implications.

The group was reminded of the September 27 gathering of Montgomery County Villages and interested members were invited to participate. The panels and partnership fair were described by Pazit.

On October 8, the Rockville Senior Center is hosting a 10 am – noon discussion of How to Plan a Village. CoA members are invited to attend.